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Ref. T2/6.04

COMSAR/Circ.19  
11 May 1999**DISTRESS PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS FOR RCC  
FROM SHORE-TO-SHIP VIA INMARSAT**

1 The Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR), at its third session (23 to 27 February 1998), noted information provided by Inmarsat on how an authorized Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) can initiate shore-to-ship communications via Inmarsat-A, InmarsatB or Inmarsat-C systems using the distress priority (Priority 3), and instructed the Secretariat to disseminate this information when it has been updated by Inmarsat.

2 Some MRCCs have established arrangements whereby they are able to use the distress priority when sending certain messages from shore-to-ship via the Inmarsat network. The method of achieving this varies depending on the nature of the facilities available at both a Coast Earth Station (CES) and a RCC. Inmarsat believes that such arrangements can contribute significantly to the efficiency and effectiveness of search and rescue operations.

3 In order for an authorized Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC) to make use of the distress priority in the shore-to-ship direction, it is necessary for that MRCC to establish a prior arrangement with the CES to set up the necessary traffic routing arrangements. To enable this arrangement to be made, the MRCC should contact the CES via the Operations Coordinator for that CES, whose details are contained in COMSAR/Circ.11 and Corr.1. The CES will advise the MRCC on the specific procedures to be used to make use of the distress priority in the shore-to-ship direction via that CES.

4 To facilitate contacts between MRCCs and CESs, detailed updated information on MRCCs has been provided by Inmarsat and is given in the annex.

5 Member Governments are invited to bring this circular to the attention of their SAR authorities and RCCs recommending them to establish appropriate arrangements for the use of distress priority communications from shore-to-ship when necessary.

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## ANNEX

**List of Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres (MRCCs) associated with Inmarsat Coast Earth Stations (CESS)**

No	CES	Country	Services	Ocean Region	MRCC	Address	Contact Details
1	Anatolia	Turkey	A	IOR	MRCC Ankara	Basbakanlik Denizcilik Mustesariigi Gazi Mustafa Kemal Bulvari No: 128 Maltepe 06100 Ankara, Turkey	Tel: +90 312 2319105, +90 312 2324783 Fax: +90 312 2320823 Tlx: (607) 44144 DZMS TR
2	Anvi	India	A/C/B/M	IOR	MRCC Mumbai	Commandant Indian Coast Guard Region (West) Golfa Devi Temple Road Prabhadevi Post Mumbai 400025, India	Tel: +91 22 437 6133, +91 22 437 9201 Fax: +91 22 493 3727, +91 22 437 9201 Tlx: (81) 1171381 BMCG IN Inmarsat-C: (583) 441907210 E-mail: cgmumbai@bom3.vsnl.net.in
3	Ata	Turkey	A/C	AOR-E IOR	MRCC Ankara	Basbakanlik Denizcilik Mustesariigi, Gazi Mustafa Kemal Bulvari No: 128 Maltepe 06100 Ankara, Turkey	Tel: +90 312 2319105, +90 312 2324783 Fax: +90 312 2320823 Tlx: (607) 44144 DZMS TR
4	Aussague	France	C/B/M	AOR-E IOR AOR-W	MRCC Etel (SARNET*)	Avenue Louis Bougo BP 48 56410 Etel France	Tel: +33 2 97 55 35 35 Fax: +33 2 97 55 49 34 Tlx: (42) 740846 CROSSA F (distress red line), (42) 950519 CROSSA F E-mail: crossa.etel@wanadoo.fr Inm-C: 422799025
5	Beijing	China	A/C/B/M	IOR POR	China Maritime Search and Rescue Centre	11 Jian Guomennei Ave Beijing, China	Tel: +86 10 65292221 Fax: +86 10 65292245 Tlx: (85) 222258 CMSAR CN
6	Blaavand**	Denmark	C	AOR-E	MRCC Aarhus (SARNET*)	Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre, P.O. Box 483 8100 Aarhus C Denmark	Tel: +45 89433099 Fax: +45 89433230 Tlx: (55) 64485 RCCAHR DK E-mail: mrcc@sok.dk Inm-C: 492380442
7	Boumehen	Iran	A/C	IOR	MRCC Tehran	Ports and Shipping Organisation No. 751 Enghelab Avenue Tehran 5994 IR of Iran	Tel: +98 21 8809326, +98 21 88093862 Fax: +98 21 8809324 Tlx: (88) 212271 BNDR IR, (88) 214260 BNDR IR
8	Cape D'Aguilar	Hong Kong	A/B/M	IOR POR	MRCC Hong Kong	HKMRC Marine Department G.P.O. Box 4155 Hong Kong	Tel: +852 2545-0181, +852 2545-4645, Fax: +852 2541-7714 Tlx: (802) 82952 MRCC HX E-mail: hkmrc@mai.gc.gov.hk

9	COMSAT Eurasia	Malaysia	B/M	IOR	MRCC Port Klang	Director General, Marine Department Safety of Navigation Division P.O. Box 12, 42007 Port Klang, Malaysia	Tel: +603 3670530, +603 3686616 Fax: +603 3671334, +603 3685020 Tx: (84) 39748 LAUT MA E-mail: kpgr@marine.gov.my
10	Eik	Norway	A/C/B/M	AOR-E IOR AOR-W	JRCC Southern Norway, Stavanger (SARNET*)	Sikringbygget N-4050 Sola Norway	Tel: +47 51517000 (emergency) Tel: +47 51646000 Fax: +47 51652334 Tx: (56) 33163 RCCS N Inm-C: 425899999
11	Fucino	Italy	A/C/B/M	AOR-E IOR	MRCC Rome	Italian MRCC Italian Coast Guard Viale dell'Arte, 16 I-00144 Rome Italy	Tel: +39 6 5924145, +39 6 5923569, +39 6 59084697, +39 6 59084409 Fax: +39 6 5922737, +39 6 59084793 Tx: (43) 611172 COGECP I, (43) 614156 COGECP I, (43) 614103 COGECP I E-mail: cogecap3@flashnet.it
12	Gnangara	Turkey	A	IOR	MRCC Ankara	Basbakanlik Denizcilik Mustesariigi Gazi Mustafa Kemal Bulvari No: 128 Maltepe 06100 Ankara , Turkey	Tel: +90 312 2319105, +90 312 2324783 Fax: +90 312 2320823 Tx: (607) 441444 DZMS TR
13	Goonhill	UK	A/C/B/M/E	AOR-E AOR-W	MRCC Falmouth (SARNET*)	HMCG Pendennis Point Castle Drive, Falmouth Cornwall TR11 4WZ, UK	Tel: +44 1326 317575 Fax: +44 1326 318342 Tx: (51) 45560 FALMCG G Inm-A (E): 581/871 1441532 Inm-C (E/W): 581 423200158/584 423200159
14	Jatuhur	Indonesia	B/M	IOR	BASARNAS (Badan SAR Nasional)	Jln. Merdeka Timur No. 5 Jakarta 10110 Indonesia	Tel: +62 21 3521111, +62 21 34832901, +62 21 34832908, +62 21 34832879, +62 21 34832953, +62 21 34832880, +62 21 34832872, +62 21 34832869, +62 21 5501111, +62 21 5507152 Fax: +62 21 34832884 Tx: (73) 44025 SARNAS IA
15	Jeddah	Saudi Arabia	A/C	IOR	N/A	N/A	N/A
16	Kuantan	Malaysia	B/M	IOR	MRCC Port Klang	Director General, Marine Department Safety of Navigation Division P.O. Box 12, 42007 Port Klang, Malaysia	Tel: +603 3670530, +603 3686616 Fax: +603 3671334, +603 3685020 Tx: (84) 39748 LAUT MA E-mail: kpgr@marine.gov.my
17	Kumsan	Republic of Korea	A/B/M/C	IOR POR	Korea National Maritime Police Agency	105-1, Boksgung-dong Jung-gu, Inchon City Republic of Korea	Tel: +82 32 883 0461, +82 32 883 4009 Fax: +82 32 881 9595, +82 32 881 5362 Tx: (801) 24920 ROKNP K

18	Laurentides	Canada	B/M	AOR-E AOR-W	RCC Halifax (SARNET*)	CFB Halifax P.O. Box 99000 Stn. Forces Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3K 5X5 Canada	Tel: +1 902 4272102 Fax: +1 902 4272114 Tlx: (21) 1921533 RCC HALIFAX Inm-C: (E/N) 581 493020114/584 493020115
19	Maadi	Egypt	A	AOR-E	SAR Center in Egypt	Almaza Air Base Heliopolis Cairo, Egypt	Tel: +20 2 4184537, +20 2 4184531 Fax: +20 2 4184531 Tlx: (91) 21095 RCCCR UN
20	Nakhodka	Russia	A	POR	MRCC Vladivostok	Nizhne-Portovaya str., 3 Vladivostok, 690019 Russia	Tel: +7 4232 412776 Fax: +7 4232 495895 Tlx: (64) 213124 RCC RU, (64) 213115 MRF RU
21	Niles Canyon	USA	A/E	AOR-W POR	RCC Alameda	Commander (cc) Pacific Area, 11 <sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District Coast Guard Island Alameda, CA 94501-5100, USA	Tel: +1 510 437 3701 Fax: +1 510 437 3017 Tlx: (230) 172343 CG ALDA
22	Nonthaburi	Thailand	C/B/M	IOR	RCC Bangkok	71 Soi Ngamduipree, Rama IV Road Tung Mahamek Bangkok 10120, Thailand	Tel: +66 2 2860506, +66 2 2860594, +66 2 2859353, +66 2 2855452 Fax: +66 2 2873186 Tlx: (86) 22720 BKKRCC TH
23	Odessa	Ukraine	A	AOR-E IOR	MRCC Odessa	29, Shevchenko Av. 270058 Odessa Ukraine	Tel: +380 48 2637619 Tel/Fax: +380 48 2634243 Tlx: (680) 232139
24	Perth	Australia	A/C/B/M/E	AOR-E AOR-W IOR POR	RCC Australia	AMSA GPO Box 2181 Canberra City ACT 2601 Australia	Tel: +61 2 6230 6811 Fax: +61 2 6230 6868 Tlx: (71) 62349 MRCCAUS AA62349 E-mail: rocca.etel@wanadoo.fr Inm-C: 422799025
25	Pleumeur Bodou	France	A	AOR-E AOR-W	MRCC Etel (SARNET*)	Avenue Louis Bougo BP 48 56410 Etel France	Tel: +33 2 97 55 35 35 Fax: +33 2 97 55 49 34 Tlx: (42) 740846 CROSSA F (distress red line), (42) 950519 CROSSA F E-mail: crossa.etel@wanadoo.fr Inm-C: 422799025
26	Psary	Poland	A/C	AOR-E IOR	MRCC Gdynia	10 Hryniwickiego Str. 81-340 Gdynia P.O.Box 186 Poland	Tel/Fax: +48 58 6205551, +48 58 6216811, +48 58 6276955 Tlx: (63) 54262 RCC PL E-mail: polratok@kp.atm.com.pl
27	Raisting	Germany	A/C/B/M/E	AOR-E IOR	MRCC Bremen (SARNET*)	German Sea Rescue Service, DGZRS, Attn.: MRCC Bremen, Werderstr. 2, D-28199 Bremen Germany	Tel: +49 421 536870 Fax: +49 421 5368714 Tlx: (41) 246466 MRCC D, (41) 244754 MRCC D Inm-C: 492621021

28	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia	B/M	AOR-E IOR	N/A	N/A	N/A
29	Santa Paula	USA	A/C/B/M	POR	RCC Alameda	Commander (cc), Pacific Area, 11 <sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District, Coast Guard Island Alameda, CA 94501-5100, USA	Tel: +1 510 437 3701 Fax: +1 510 437 3017 Tlx: (230) 172343 CG ALDA
30	Sentosa	Singapore	A/C/B/M	IOR POR	MRCC Singapore, Port Operations Control Centre	Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Port Master's Department 19 Storey Tanjong Pagar Complex 7B Keppel Road, Singapore 089055, Republic of Singapore	Tel: +65 3252493, +65 3252494 Fax: +65 2245776 Tlx: (87) 34970 POR TPM RS34970 E-mail: pocc@mpa.gov.sg
31	Sintra	Portugal	C	AOR-E	MRCC Lisboa	Comando Naval Reduto Gomes Freire Estrada Da Medrosa 2780 OEIRAS Portugal	Tel: +351 1 4416581, +351 1 4416527 Fax: +351 1 4416159 Tlx: (404) 60747 MRCC LP
32	Southbury	USA	A/C/B/M	AOR-E AOR-W	RCC Norfolk	Commander (cc), Atlantic Area, 5 <sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District 431 Crawford Street Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004, USA	Tel: +1 757 398 6231 Fax: +1 757 398 6392 Tlx: (230) 127775 USCG RCC NYK

33	Staten Island	USA	A	ACR-E	RCC Norfolk	Commander (cc) Atlantic Area, 5 <sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District 431 Crawford Street Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004, USA	Tel: +1 757 398 6231 Fax: +1 757 398 6392 Tlx: (230) 127775 USCG RCC NYK
34	Station-12	Netherlands	A/C/B/M	AOR-E AOR-W IOR POR	JRCC Ijmuiden (SARNET*)	JRCC Ijmuiden Merwedestraat 1 Postbus 303 1970 AH Ijmuiden The Netherlands	Tel: +31 900 0111 (public emergency number) Tel: +31 255 54 66 54 (watch officer) Fax: +31 255 546599 Tlx: (44) 71088 KUSTW NL Inmarsat-C: 424477710 NLGG X
35	Tangua	Brazil	A/C	AOR-E AOR-W	MRCC Brazil	Comando de Operacoes Navais, Salvamar Brasil (MRCC Brazil) Praca Barao de Ladario S/N Edificio Almirante Tamandare, 7 andar Rio de Janeiro, R.J. Brazil 20.091-000	Tel: +55 21 2166056 Fax: +55 21 2166038 Tlx: (38) 2135231 MMAR BR Inmarsat-C: 471009910 Inmarsat-M: 687240227 (voice), 687240228 (fax)
36	Thermopylae	Greece	A/C/B/M	AOR-E IOR	JRCC Piraeus (SARNET*)	Ministry of Merchantile Marine Hellenic Coast Guard RCC - Maritime Section 150, Gr. Lambriki Ave. 185 18 Piraeus Greece	Tel: +30 1 4132398/4224417 Fax: +30 1 4132398/4224417 Tlx: (601) 211588 RCC GR/211254 RCC GR Inm-A: +58 1/583 1133207 RCCG Inm-C: +58 1/583 423767310 RCCG
37	Towi Al Saman	UAE	B/M	IOR	N/A	N/A	N/A
38	Yamaguchi	Japan	A/C/B/M	AOR-E AOR-W IOR POR	Japanese Maritime Safety Agency	2-1-3 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku, Operations Office Search and Rescue Division, Tokyo 100-0013, Japan	Tel: +81-3-3591-9812 Fax: + 81-3-3581-2853 Tlx: (72) 2225193 JMSAHQ J
39	Netley	New Zealand	C	POR	Maritime Operations Centre	Percy Cameron Street P.O. Box 30 945 Lower Hutt New Zealand	Tel: +64 4 6190623 Fax: +64 4 5771881 E-mail: maritime@bcninz.co.nz Inmarsat-C: (582) 451200067

Notes:

\* - MRCCs associated with Inmarsat CES that have been declared operational on Search and Rescue Network (SARNET). SARNET is a communication broadcast system to allow international MRCCs to exchange or seek SAR information by using Inmarsat-C EGC FleetNET service. MRCC Turku (Finland), MRCC Gothenburg (Sweden), MRCC Madrid (Spain), RCC Bermuda, MRCC Riga (Latvia), MRCC Rejkjavik (Iceland) are not associated with Inmarsat CESs but have also been declared operational on SARNET.

\*\* - Blaavand CES will cease operation as of 31 May 1999.

*While Inmarsat takes every care in the compilation of the information contained in this table, no responsibility is or will be accepted by Inmarsat for any inaccuracy or incompleteness of the information. Information compiled May 1999.*

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